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E-467

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION EUR-12INFO OCT-01 AOS-00 INR-10 CIAE-00 ICA-15 DODE-00 NEA-07
NSAE-00 HA-06 PA-02 SMS-01 SP-02 SPRS-02 (ADS) W
-----066157 142134Z /46

R 131448Z AUG 81

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3594

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 3729

EO 12065: N/A

TAGS: SHUM SW UR

SUBJ: NEW WRINKLES IN THE WALLENBERG STORY

1. SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO THE SWEDISH EVENING TABLOID "AFTONBLADET", A RETIRED SOVIET ARMY LIEUTENANT NOW LIVING IN ISRAEL CLAIMS TO HAVE MET SOVIET OFFICERS INVOLVED IN RAOUL WALLENBERG'S SEIZURE IN BUDAPEST IN 1945. THEIR UNIT WAS SUPPOSEDLY HEADED BY THEN-MAJOR GENERAL LEONID BREZHNEV. THE SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTRY, REPORTEDLY SKEPTICAL OF THE INFORMATION, HAS DISPATCHED AN OFFICIAL TO ISRAEL TO INTERVIEW "AFTONBLADET'S SOURCE, YAAKOV LEONTEVICH LAKHOTSKY-MENAKER. END SUMMARY.

2. "AFTONBLADET" BEGAN ON AUGUST 9 A SERIES BASED ON INTERVIEWS WITH LAKHOTSKY-MENAKER, WHO REPORTEDLY EMIGRATED TO ISRAEL IN 1975 AFTER SERVING 31 YEARS IN THE SOVIET ARMY. AT VETERANS GATHERINGS IN THE USSR BEGINNING IN 1976, LAKHOTSKY-MENAKER ENCOUNTERED A MAN NAMED AMINJEV, WHO HAD BEEN DECORATED FOR PLANNING AND EXECUTING WALLENBERG'S SEIZURE DURING SERVICE WITH THE POLITICAL BRANCH OF THE SOVIET 18TH ARMY (A UNIT SUPPOSEDLY HEADED BY BREZHNEV). AMINJEV AND OTHERS AT THESE PERIODIC MEETINGS SPOKE KNOWINGLY BUT GUARDEDLY OF THE "SUCCESSFUL" UNCLASSIFIED
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OPERATION AGAINST WALLENBERG, ACCORDING TO LAKHOTSKY-MENAKER.

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| IN RELEASE | <input type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY | <input type="checkbox"/> MR Cases Only |
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| () STATE Non-Responsive | <input type="checkbox"/> Info | |
| FoIA Exemptions | | |
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3. PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY LEIF LEIFLAND REPORTEDLY
EXPRESSED THE MFA'S GREAT SKEPTICISM OVER LAKHOTSKY-
MENAKER'S INFORMATION, SINCE IT DIFFERS CONSIDERABLY FROM EARLIER
TESTIMONY AND DOCUMENTATION. FOREIGN MINISTER ULLSTEN SAID:
"THE RUSSIANS KNOW CONSIDERABLY MORE ABOUT THE WALLENBERG
CASE THAN THAT THEY SAY. BUT WE CANNOT FORCE THEM TO RELEASE
WHAT THEY HAVE." NONETHLESS, THE MFA SENT AN
EXPERT--LARS-AKE NILSSON, NOW POSTED IN LONDON--TO ISRAEL
AUGUST 12 TO INTERVIEW LAKHOTSKY-MENAKER. HAMILTON

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